

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A direction indicating device comprising:

a direction specifying unit that detects geomagnetism to specify an orientation direction of a vehicle;

a display direction determining unit that determines a current display direction in consideration of historical information of the direction of the vehicle itself specified by the direction specifying unit and a previous display direction; and

a direction providing unit that provides the current display direction determined by the display direction determining unit.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the direction specifying unit repeatedly detects geomagnetism and finds a mean value of the geomagnetism during a sampling period and specifies a directional section to which the mean value of the geomagnetism belongs, as the direction of the vehicle.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the current direction of the vehicle specified by the direction specifying unit agrees with a previous direction of the vehicle, the display direction determining unit makes the current display direction agree with the current direction of the vehicle.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 2, wherein when the current direction of the vehicle specified by the direction specifying unit agrees with the previous direction of the vehicle, if the latest mean value of geomagnetism is within a margin region provided to prevent chattering at a boundary of the directional sections, the display direction determining unit makes the current display direction agree with the previous display direction, and if the latest mean value of geomagnetism is without the margin region, the display direction determining unit makes the current display direction agree with the current direction of vehicle.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 4, wherein when the current direction of the vehicle specified by the direction specifying unit, the previous direction of the vehicle and the second previous direction of the vehicle agree with each other, the display direction determining unit narrows the margin region.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 5, wherein when the current direction of the vehicle specified by the direction specifying unit is different from the previous direction of the vehicle, the display direction determining unit returns the margin region to its original size.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the current direction of the vehicle specified by the direction specifying unit is different

from the previous direction of the vehicle, the display direction determining unit makes the current display direction agree with the previous display direction.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The direction indicating device as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the current direction of the vehicle is different from the previous direction of the vehicle, the display direction determining unit determines a traveling direction of the vehicle from the current direction of the vehicle, the previous direction of the vehicle, and the previous display direction, and if the traveling direction is constant, the display direction determining unit updates the current display direction to the traveling direction side of the vehicle by one directional section from the previous display direction.